

TRINITY MISSIONS

MISSIONARY SERVANTS OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

9001 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE • SILVER SPRING, MD 20903-3626
(888) 248-8577 • www.trinitymissions.org

RECEIVED

February 28, 2018

2018 MAR -8 P 1:01

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman

Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman

Commissioner Nanci Langley

Commissioner Mark Acton

Postal Regulatory Commission

901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200

Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Trinity Missionary priests and Brothers are pastors, teachers, chaplains and counselors. Our men visit the sick and elderly, offer guidance to youngsters, and feel the pain of the poor and homeless. Our work brings us in touch with people who are abandoned and alone. Thousands of poor and forgotten people...the most needy among us will be affected by this proposed postage increase.


Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have the following impact on our mission and the people we serve:

1. Fewer people will be informed about the needs of those we serve -- our brothers and sisters, neighbors and friends who find themselves looking to our missionaries for support and guidance.

2. Fewer dollars will be raised which will have a direct affect on the types and number of programs we are able to provide.
3. Without our help people and families will suffer. They will also look to the government for assistance where they once had Trinity Missions to turn to.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,



John T. Butler
VP of Development and Mission Advancement
Trinity Missions